

Correct the typical B2 First key word sentence transformation mistakes

A candidate has answered all of the Use of English Part Four questions below but has made one mistake in each answer. Find the one error in each gap and correct it.

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

COULD

I _____ WISH I COULD COME _____ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

TIME

Tom asked John what _____ TIME DID HE WANT TO _____ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

HARDLY

There are _____ HARDLY PLACES LEFT _____ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

BOUGHT

An increasing number of vinyl records _____ ARE BOUGHT FROM _____ music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

SALE

The new mePhone 7 will not _____ BE ON SALE BY _____ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

BEEN

I would have gone skiing if _____ IT HADN'T BEEN SNOWED _____ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

FIRST

It IS THE FIRST TIME THAT Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

KNOWN

I COULD NOT KNOW that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

LONG

The time available WASN'T ENOUGH LONG to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

FEW

Very A FEW MINDS WERE CHANGED in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

INSTEAD

We lost the contract because we emphasized price INSTEAD OF STRESS OUR technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

THINK

Tom advised me NOT THINKING TOO LONG before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

SUCH

He HAS SUCH A MESSY NOTES that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

WORTH

It's _____ NOT WORTH TO ASK _____ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

HAD

I have never _____ HAD MY HAIR CUT SUCH _____ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

LENDING

Would _____ YOU LENDING ME _____ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

ALTHOUGH

Tom has quit his job, although _____ NOT HAVING ANOTHER _____ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

BETTER

You _____ HAD BETTER TO GET YOUR _____ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

CASE

I'll take a map _____ IN CASE OF TOM DOESN'T _____ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

FAULT

It was _____ MY FAULT WHY WE COULDN'T _____ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

FOR

It _____ SPENT FIVE YEARS FOR TOM'S _____ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

LET

Tom's boss _____ WOULDN'T LET HIM TO HIRE _____ more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

MUST

This _____ ENTRANCE MUST NOT LOCKED _____ during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

MAY

Tom _____ MAY LEFT _____ it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

LONG

Tom's essay was _____ NOT TOO LONG TO _____ get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

TEMPER

Tom _____ LOST THE TEMPER BECAUSE OF _____ his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TOUCH

Please feel free _____ TO GET IN TOUCH TO _____ me if you have any more questions.

Hint: Some answers have over five words and so you need to delete a word. The others have the wrong word, mixed words, wrong forms of the right words, missing words or extra words.

Check your answers with the answer key or as a class. It may be possible to correct some in other ways, so please check if you have made different corrections.

Suggested answers

Other answers might be possible, so please check if you wrote something different. The numbers show which parts get each of the two marks (as in the real test).

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

COULD

I _____ WISH I COULD (1)/ HAVE COME (1) _____ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

TIME

Tom asked John what _____ TIME HE (1)/ WANTED TO (1) _____ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

HARDLY

There are _____ HARDLY ANY (1)/ PLACES LEFT (1) _____ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

BOUGHT

An increasing number of vinyl records ARE BEING (1)/ BOUGHT FROM (1) music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

SALE

The new mePhone 7 will not _____ BE ON SALE (1)/ UNTIL (1) _____ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

BEEN

I would have gone skiing if _____ IT HADN'T (1)/ BEEN SNOWING (1) _____ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

FIRST

It WAS THE FIRST (1)/ TIME (THAT) (1) Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

KNOWN

I COULD NOT (1)/ HAVE KNOWN (1) that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

LONG

The time available WASN'T (1)/ LONG ENOUGH (1) to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

FEW

Very FEW (PEOPLE'S) MINDS (1)/ WERE CHANGED (1) in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

INSTEAD

We lost the contract because we emphasized price INSTEAD OF (1)/ STRESSING OUR (1) technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

THINK

Tom advised me NOT TO THINK (1)/ TOO LONG (1) before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

SUCH

He HAS SUCH (1)/ MESSY NOTES (1) that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

WORTH

It's _____ NOT WORTH (1)/ ASKING (1) _____ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

HAD

I have never _____ HAD MY HAIR (1)/ CUT SO (1) _____ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

LENDING

Would _____ YOU MIND (1)/ LENDING ME (1) _____ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

ALTHOUGH

Tom has quit his job, although _____ HE DOESN'T (1)/ HAVE ANOTHER (1) _____ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

BETTER

You _____ HAD BETTER (1)/ GET YOUR (1) or HAVE YOUR (1) _____ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

CASE

I'll take a map _____ IN CASE (1)/ TOM DOESN'T (1) _____ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

FAULT

It was _____ MY FAULT (1)/ WE COULDN'T (1) _____ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

FOR

It _____ TOOK FIVE YEARS (1)/ FOR TOM'S (1) _____ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

LET

Tom's boss WOULDN'T LET (1) or DIDN'T LET (1)/ HIM HIRE (1) more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

MUST

This ENTRANCE MUST NOT (1)/ BE LOCKED (1) during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

MAY

Tom MAY HAVE (1)/ LEFT (1) it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

LONG

Tom's essay was NOT LONG (1)/ ENOUGH TO (1) get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

TEMPER

Tom LOST HIS TEMPER (1)/ BECAUSE OF (1) or OWING TO (1) his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TOUCH

Please feel free TO GET IN (1)/ TOUCH WITH (1) me if you have any more questions.

Try to remember or work out the answer to the blank versions of the questions above which are below. Don't look above or at your corrected versions.

1. It's a pity that I was not able to come to your graduation ceremony.

COULD

I _____ to your graduation ceremony.

2. "What time do you want to start, John?" asked Tom

TIME

Tom asked John what _____ start.

3. Almost all the places by the pool have been taken.

HARDLY

There are _____ by the pool.

4. Music shops are selling more and more vinyl records again.

BOUGHT

An increasing number of vinyl records _____ music shops again.

5. The new mePhone 7 can be bought from next year.

SALE

The new mePhone 7 will not _____ next year.

6. I didn't go skiing because the snow was falling so heavily.

BEEN

I would have gone skiing if _____ so heavily.

7. Tom had never eaten a bacon and banana sandwich before.

FIRST

It _____ Tom had ever eaten a bacon and banana sandwich.

8. It was impossible for me to know that the diamond was fake.

KNOWN

I _____ that it wasn't a real diamond.

9. I couldn't get through all the slides in the time available.

LONG

The time available _____ to get through all the slides.

10. They didn't change many people's minds in the town hall meeting.

FEW

Very _____ in the town hall meeting.

11. We lost the contract because we emphasized price rather than stressing our technology.

INSTEAD

We lost the contract because we emphasized price _____ technology.

12. Tom suggested that I choose as quickly as possible.

THINK

Tom advised me _____ before choosing.

13. His notes are so messy that I can hardly read them.

SUCH

He _____ that I can hardly read them.

14. There's no point in asking George to help.

WORTH

It's _____ George to help.

15. No one has ever given me such a short haircut before.

HAD

I have never _____ short before.

16. Could I borrow your coffee maker, please?

LENDING

Would _____ your coffee maker?

17. Tom has quit his job, in spite of not having another job yet.

ALTHOUGH

Tom has quit his job, although _____ job yet.

18. You ought to get your roof fixed right away.

BETTER

You _____ roof fixed right away.

19. Tom might not remember the way, so I'll take a map.

CASE

I'll take a map _____ remember the way.

20. We got lost because of my directions.

FAULT

It was _____ find the way.

21. When Tom wanted to change jobs, his company didn't do it for five years.

FOR

It _____ company to change his job.

22. Tom couldn't get his boss's permission to hire more staff.

LET

Tom's boss _____ more staff.

23. Staff are not allowed to lock this entrance during business hours.

MUST

This _____ during business hours.

24. Perhaps Tom left it here on purpose.

MAY

Tom _____ it here on purpose.

25. Tom's essay was too short to get top marks.

LONG

Tom's essay was _____ get top marks.

26. His brother's non-stop jokes made Tom angry.

TEMPER

Tom _____ his brother's non-stop jokes.

27. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TOUCH

Please feel free _____ me if you have any more questions.

Check with the suggested answers. Other answers may be possible, so please check if you put other words in the gaps.